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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 31 Jan. 1950

SUBJECT Campaign against the CDU

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1. During the period 15-25 January 1950, a number of CDU public officials have been forced out of office by demonstrations and resolutions by local trade union and FDJ groups styling themselves the representatives of "the people". Some of those attacked have felt it necessary to flee from the Russian Zone. All the persons involved were known as opponents of the present leadership of the CDU and supporters of an independent policy for the CDU as against the bloc policy, favoring a separate list of candidates in the elections scheduled for October 1950.
2. Among those affected are the following:
 - a. Schneider, mayor of Nauen.
 - b. Richard, "city planner" of Potsdam
 - c. The mayors of Beelitz and Bad Kleinen.
 - d. Mayor Eckart of Oranienburg.
 - e. Dechart, Chairman of the CDU for Oranienburg.
 - f. Two members of the City Council in Treuenbrietzen.
 - g. Dr. Friedrich Witte, Minister of Economics in Mecklenburg.
 - h. Dr. Kaltenborn, Deputy Chairman of the CDU in Mecklenburg.
 - i. Reichard, in charge of Elbe shipping.
 - j. Peter, described as "acting Landrat" of Aue.
 - k. Dedeck, CDU Kreis chairman, Aue.
 - l. Poppach, acting Landrat of Borna.
3. The LDP, apparently alarmed by this action against the CDU and by the recent Hickmann-Rohner crisis in Saxony, is planning to have all its members sign a statement in support of the Oder-Neisse line, to prove their friendship for Soviet Russia.
4. A rumor has been circulated within the CDU, and has been believed by many, that the Americans have decided that they may as well leave Berlin to the Russians, if a face-saving method can be found, and that therefore it has been agreed to permit a youth rally at Whitsuntide to make a demonstration of the German desire to get rid of the western Allies, who will then "naturally" yield to the popular demand.

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5. CDU headquarters has been informed further that Ambassador Semenov has stated that Walter Ulbricht, during his recent visit in Moscow, was ordered to bring the eastern zone fully into line with Communist policies by May 1950. In event of failure, Ulbricht himself would be liquidated.

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6. In this connection, [] declaring that the entire action against the bourgeois parties was initiated by Ulbricht with the approval of Moscow, points out that the SED at the same time disclaims all responsibility for it, and alleges that it is occasioned by "popular demand". Thus Deputy Premier Otto Nuschke, as spokesman for the CDU, is unable to force the SED to put a stop to the attacks.

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